(d) Not applicable in view of the reply to (c) above.

One Rank One Pension for Ex-Servicemen

† 1793. SHRI SURENDRA LATH: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is extreme anomaly in the pensions of officers and employees of lower level ex-servicemen;

(b) if so, whether it is also a fact that ex-servicemen have been demanding constantly to implement the principle of "one rank one pension" to eliminate the anomaly and to bring equality in the pension;

(c) since when Government propose to make effective the principle of "one rank one pension"; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI B. K. HANDIQUE): (a) There is no anomaly in pension of officers and employees of lower level ex-servicemen since both the categories have distinct terms of employment, pay, weightage in qualifying service, retirement age and method of computation of their pension and comparison across the same is not justified as they are not similarly placed.

(b) The ex-servicemen have been demanding constantly to implement the principle of "one rank one pension", but the same is not related to the perceived anomaly in pension of officers and lower level ex-servicemen.

(c) and (d) A Group of Ministers has been constituted to look into the matter.

Indian Troops in Foreign Peace Keeping Force

1794. SHRI LEKHRAJ BACHANI: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

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† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.